

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. An electronic service transaction apparatus, comprising:
 - 2 a computer peripheral device having a communication link and a
 - 3 messaging system operative to provide send and receive capabilities with an
 - 4 electronic service site;

5 wherein the communication link is operative to connect the computer
6 peripheral device with the electronic service site through the Internet, and the
7 messaging system is accessed directly by the computer peripheral device to
8 initiate an electronic service transaction from the computer peripheral device
9 with the electronic service site.
- 1 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the computer peripheral
2 device comprises an embedded web server, and wherein the embedded web
3 server is operative to forward a request for an electronic service to the
4 electronic service site from the computer peripheral device via the messaging
5 system.
- 1 3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the computer peripheral
2 device comprises a messaging system that enables initiation of an electronic
3 service transaction from an electronic service site.
- 1 4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the communication link
2 comprises an electronic communication link provided by a mail client of the
3 computer peripheral device that enables a user to submit an e-mail order using a
4 mail program from the computer peripheral device to an external provider of
5 electronic services.
- 1 5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the messaging system
2 comprises an e-mail system including a mail program operative to provide send
3 and receive capabilities between the computer peripheral device and an external
4 electronic service site.

1 6. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the messaging system
2 comprises a dedicated Internet connection.

1 7. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the computer peripheral
2 device connects with an external server via the Internet, the computer peripheral
3 device accesses a document on the external server to render a web page, and
4 the electronic service transaction comprises sending a URL for the document to
5 the electronic service, and receiving a print stream from the external server for
6 the document.

1 8. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the computer peripheral
2 device automatically generates a consumable order message in response to the
3 computer peripheral device detecting a need to replenish a consumable and
4 further forwards a notification to a consumable order web site on an external
5 web server indicating a need to replenish the consumable.

1 9. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the computer peripheral
2 device comprises a printer connected with the Internet via the communication
3 link, wherein a user accesses a document on the Internet via the printer and
4 prints the document using the printer.

1 10. A computer peripheral device, comprising:
2 an output engine;
3 a transaction execution subsystem communicating with the output
4 engine;
5 a communication interface communicating with the transaction
6 execution subsystem; and
7 processing circuitry communicating with the transaction execution
8 subsystem and operative to initiate an electronic services transaction from the
9 transaction execution subsystem using the communication interface via an
10 external network with an electronic services provider.

1 11. The computer peripheral device of claim 10 wherein the output
2 engine comprises a print engine communicating with the transaction execution
3 subsystem.

1 12. The computer peripheral device of claim 10 wherein the
2 communication interface comprises a user interface of a computer peripheral
3 device.

1 13. The computer peripheral device of claim 10 wherein the
2 transaction execution subsystem comprises an embedded web server.

1 14. The computer peripheral device of claim 13 wherein the CPU is
2 further operative to carry out an e-services transaction using the transaction
3 execution subsystem of the computer peripheral device.

1 15. A method of initiating an electronic services transaction,
2 comprising:

3 providing a computer peripheral device having a communication link
4 with an electronic service site and an interface system for initiating an electronic
5 service transaction between the computer peripheral device and the electronic
6 service site;

7 detecting a need to initiate an electronic service transaction from the
8 computer peripheral device with an external electronic service site; and

9 initiating an electronic service transaction in response to the detected
10 need using the computer peripheral device.

1 16. The method of claim 15 wherein the computer peripheral device
2 comprises an embedded web server, the electronic service site comprises a site
3 web server and the communication link comprises an Internet messaging system
4 extending between the computer peripheral device and the site server.

1 17. The method of claim 15 wherein detecting a need for an
2 electronic services transaction comprises receiving a user input at a user
3 interface of a computer peripheral device that initiates an e-services transaction.

1 18. The method of claim 15 wherein the computer peripheral device
2 comprises a printer.

1 19. The method of claim 18 wherein detecting a need for an
2 electronic services transaction comprises detecting a need to order toner.

1 20. The method of claim 18 wherein the printer completes an
2 electronic services transaction with the electronic service site.

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